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Financing of the United Nations Transnational Administration in East Timor

Report of the Fifth Committee

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I. Introduction

1. The previous recommendation made by the Fifth Committee to the General Assembly under agenda item 173 appears in the report of the Committee contained in document A/54/687.

2. The Fifth Committee resumed its consideration of the item at its 57th and 58th meetings, on 29 and 31 March 2000. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/54/SR.57 and 58).

3. For its further consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor (A/54/769) and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/54/804).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.5/54/L.52

4. At the 58th meeting, on 31 March, the representative of Egypt, Vice-Chairman of the Committee and coordinator of the informal consultations on this item, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Financing of the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor" (A/C.5/54/L.52).

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/54/L.52 without a vote (see para. 6).

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III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Financing of the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Bearing in mind Security Council resolution 1272 (1999) of 25 October 1999 regarding the establishment of the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor,

Recalling its resolution 54/246 of 23 December 1999,

Reaffirming that the costs of the Transitional Administration are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its previous decisions regarding the fact that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the Transitional Administration, a different procedure is required from that applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such an operation,

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the trust fund for the multinational force,

Noting also with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the Trust Fund for the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor and inviting further such contributions to the Fund,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Transitional Administration with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor as at 24 March 2000, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 130.8 million United States dollars,

[1] A/54/769.
[2] A/54/804.

representing 65 per cent of the total assessed contributions, notes that some 18 per cent of the Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States concerned, in particular those in arrears, to ensure the payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full;

3. *Expresses concern* about the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursements to troop contributors that bear additional burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

4. *Urges* all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Transitional Administration in full and on time;

5. *Expresses concern* at the delay experienced by the Secretary-General in deploying and providing adequate resources to some recent peacekeeping missions, in particular those in Africa;

6. *Emphasizes* that all future and existing peacekeeping missions shall be given equal and non-discriminatory treatment in respect of financial and administrative arrangements;

7. *Also emphasizes* that all peacekeeping missions shall be provided with adequate resources for the effective and efficient discharge of their respective mandates;

8. *Reiterates* its request to the Secretary-General to make the fullest possible use of facilities and equipment at the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, in order to minimize the costs of procurement for the Transitional Administration, and for this purpose requests the Secretary-General to speed up the implementation of the asset management system at all peacekeeping missions in accordance with General Assembly resolution 52/1 of 15 October 1997;

9. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2] and requests the Secretary-General to ensure their full implementation;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Transitional Administration is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in order to reduce the cost of employing General Service staff, to continue efforts to employ locally recruited staff for the Transitional Administration against General Service posts, commensurate with the requirements of the Transitional Administration;

12. *Decides* to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor the amount of 350 million dollars gross (341,084,300 dollars net) for the establishment and maintenance of the Transitional Administration for the period from 1 December 1999 to 30 June 2000, inclusive of the amount of 200 million dollars authorized by the General Assembly in its resolution 54/246;

13. *Decides also*, as an ad hoc arrangement, to apportion the amount of 150 million dollars gross (141,084,300 dollars net) for the period from 1 December 1999 to 30 June 2000, taking into account the amount of 200 million dollars already apportioned among Member States in accordance with Assembly resolution 54/246 and in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of General Assembly resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 49/249 A of 20 July 1995, 49/249 B of 14 September 1995, 50/224 of 11 April 1996, 51/218 A to C of 18 December 1996 and 52/230 of 31 March 1998 and its decisions 48/472 A of 23 December 1993, 50/451 B of 23 December 1995 and 54/456 to 54/458 of 23 December 1999, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the years 1999 and 2000, as set out in its resolutions 52/215 A of 22 December 1997 and 54/237 A of 23 December 1999;

14. *Decides further* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 13 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 8,915,700 dollars approved for the Transitional Administration for the period from 1 December 1999 to 30 June 2000;

15. *Emphasizes* that no peacekeeping mission shall be financed by borrowing funds from other active peacekeeping missions;

16. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to take additional measures to ensure the safety and security of all personnel under the auspices of the United Nations participating in the Transitional Administration;

17. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the Transitional Administration in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

18. *Decides* to keep under review during its fifty-fourth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor".